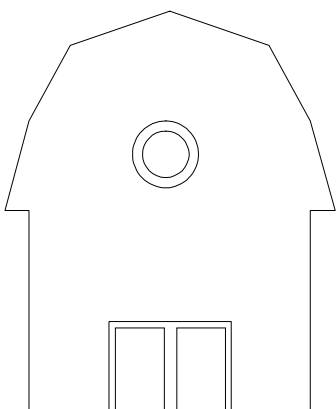


## Nuclear Power Plant Emergency — Considerations for Agricultural Producers



- Shelter livestock and give stored feed if authorities advise it.
  - Some farm buildings provide better protection than others because of heavy construction. Placing earth, hay, sacked feed or fertilizer, concrete blocks or other materials around exposed shelter walls will increase shielding effectiveness.
  - Ensure adequate ventilation. If you must use a fan, set it on a low speed to avoid bringing in air from the outside.
  - Give space to more valuable animals rather than sheltering all animals and risking losses from overcrowding.
  - Natural shelters such as caves, ravines, forests and wood lots offer some protection.
  - Cattle could be penned in cattle underpasses or bridges if available. Cattle confined in pens shelter each other to a limited extent.
  - Move dairy cattle and goats indoors first because radioactive material is easily transferred into milk.
- Do not add water to covered storage unless it is from a protected source.
- Protect standing water by covering the surface at the outset of an emergency.
- Cover feed to protect it from falling particles. Protect haystacks in an open field with tarpaulins, plastic sheets or similar coverings.
- Poultry a little more resistant to radiation than other animals.
  - Confined shelters and use of stored feed also lower concern of contamination.
  - The same feed, water and shelter ventilation measures taken for livestock should be followed to reduce the likelihood of contaminated egg and poultry products.
- Swine care follows steps taken with other livestock. Water is a necessity for hogs, so make sure the source is protected.

This document is IFAS  
publication DH 1205.

Adapted by UF/IFAS from:  
*Extension Agent's Hand-  
book for Emergency Prep-  
aration and Response*  
(Texas Agricultural  
Extension Services and the  
Hazard Reduction and  
Recovery Center)